

Hi everyone! I hope you are off to a good start of your school year, and that your classes are going well! I had a good summer, with the opportunity to attend a Modeling Workshop led by our own Doug Vallette (Unionville High School), and the chance to meet some of you at the National Meeting at the end of July/beginning of August. I'm excited to be back in the swing of things, and I'm enjoying trying some more student-centered techniques in my classes this year, after years of insisting that the best way to learn is to figure things out for oneself. So far, I've been really impressed by what my students are capable of producing on their own, and the level of discourse I've heard among my students about the ideas and problems.

I only have a couple announcements this time, but I'm sure there will be more as the school year continues. Please let me know about any exciting events, professional development opportunities, or resources you come across that you'd like to share with the rest of the Southeastern PA Section! Here's a summary of this week's notices:

1. APS PAIR GRANT DEADLINE APPROACHING (9/15/12)
2. FALL DEMO SHOW (10/27/12, Harriton HS)
3. 2012 HUMANS IN SPACE YOUTH ART COMPETITION (Deadline 10/21/12)
4. JOINT SPRING MEETING WITH SOCIETY OF PHYSICS STUDENTS (4/19-4/20, Drexel)
5. REQUEST TO COMPLETE NASA'S SMD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SURVEY
6. OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT STUDENT CLIMATE RESEARCH TO HARVARD'S JEI (Deadline 11/20)
7. Links: AAPT online

As always, please let me know by email (jwaldman -at- archmereacademy.com) if you would like me to change your subscription, or if you have friends or colleagues who would like to be added.

With apologies for the long summer hiatus,

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1. APS PAIR GRANTS FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND RESOURCES

The American Physical Society (APS) is providing grants for high-school physics teachers to work with professional physicists, receiving professional development and material support. Physics and Instructional Resources (PAIR) is a pilot project in physics teacher professional development designed to support physics teachers in need of content and/or material resources. This effort, funded by an APS member donation, will support up to 20 teacher + professional physicist teams to develop and implement new

content-rich lessons. The application deadline is September 15th, 2012.

A grant of up to \$1,200 will be provided to each team to purchase classroom materials required for the lessons. Travel support will also be provided to the team to share their project at a regional professional meeting.

High school physics teachers who are in particular need of professional development and material support are encouraged to apply. Physics teachers who are teaching out of their content area (folks with a biology or mathematics degree for example), or those who work in schools with very limited material resources are our first priority.

Professional physicists (including post-docs and graduate students) in the academe or industry who would like to work closely with a high school physics teacher are also encouraged to apply for mentorship roles. Prior experience with schools and/or professional development is not required.

<http://www.aps.org/programs/education/highschool/teachers/pair.cfm>

2. FALL 2012 DEMO SHOW

Our annual Fall Demo Show will take place on a Saturday, rather than our more usual Friday night time, in order to be accessible to a different and hopefully broader range of members. The demo show will take place on October 27, 2012, at Harriton High School in Rosemont, PA, where Bob Schwartz will be our host. If you have a demo to share, please bring it; you're also welcome to come just to share ideas and get some new ones. Watch this space for more specific details in the next few weeks.

3. 2012 HUMANS IN SPACE YOUTH ART COMPETITION

The international 2012 Humans in Space Youth Art Competition invites students ages 10-18 to express their ideas about the future of human space exploration through visual, literary, musical or digital art.

Artwork submissions will be judged on creativity, skill and demonstration of meaning relevant to expressing "How will humans use science and technology to explore space, and what mysteries will we uncover?"

Winning art will be showcased at displays and multimedia performances worldwide from 2013 to 2014, as well as in an online gallery. Submissions must be received by Oct. 21, 2012.

For additional information and a complete list of guidelines, visit www.humansinspaceart.org. Inquiries about this opportunity should be directed to Jancy McPhee at jancy.c.mcphee@nasa.gov.

4. JOINT SPRING MEETING WITH SOCIETY OF PHYSICS STUDENTS

Save the date for SEPS AAPT's joint spring meeting with the Society of Physics

Students Zone 3, on the theme of "Communicating Physics". The meeting will be held at Drexel University in Philadelphia on Friday, April 19 and Saturday, April 20, 2013.

5. REQUEST TO COMPLETE NASA's SMD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SURVEY

The NASA Science Mission Directorate (SMD) is strongly committed to enhancing the nation's science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education. As part of that commitment, SMD has established an Education and Public Outreach (E/PO) Forum which brings together scientists and educators to coordinate activities using NASA science content, expertise, and facilities to have the biggest impact on learners nationwide, especially teachers.

One of the areas on which we are currently focusing is teacher professional development. In an effort to continue offering the most valuable experiences possible, we are seeking your expert input. Please fill in the survey found at the website listed below. The survey should take less than 20 minutes.

<http://bit.ly/NASAscience teacher>

Thank you very much for your contribution to NASA Science Education and Public Outreach!

Cassie Soeffing, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies
Lindsay Bartolone, Adler Planetarium
Ruth Paglierani, University of California, Berkeley
Sheri Klug-Boonstra, Arizona State University
Liz Burck, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

6. OPPORTUNITY TO PUBLISH STUDENT CLIMATE RESEARCH IN HARVARD'S JEI

Harvard University's *Journal of Emerging Investigators*, or *JEI*, has formed a collaboration with the Institute for Earth Science Research and Education to publish a series of peer-reviewed, climate-related research papers authored by middle- and secondary-school students.

JEI is an open-access peer-reviewed online journal whose mission is to encourage and publish authentic student research. In addition to standalone research papers, *JEI* also encourages students who are developing science fair projects to submit journal articles based on those projects. Guidelines for articles, including some practical suggestions for converting a science fair project into a journal article submission, can be found at www.instesre.org.

The initial deadline for an intent to submit a manuscript email is Nov. 30, 2012. For more information, including submission instructions and other deadlines, please contact David Brooks at brooksd-r-at- instesre.org.

7. SEPS AAPT ONLINE

For news, upcoming events, and photos of past events, check out the SEPS AAPT web presence online and on Facebook!

Website: <http://www.physics.upenn.edu/~aapt/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/?ref=logo#!/group.php?gid=166735829132>